

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A rocker switch assembly includes a switch body, a mounting strap, a frame, and a paddle for actuating the switch between an on and an off position. The paddle has a uni-convex cylindrical exterior surface. The paddle further has a contiguous circumferential surface including opposing side portions and opposing upper and lower portions that have a transverse (cross sectional) profile defined by a curvature, R_B , the center of which lies along a pivot axis of the paddle. The rocker switch assembly further includes a faceplate in the form of a frame having an opening defined by upper and opposing lower inner surfaces and left and opposing right inner surfaces. The exterior front surface of the faceplate has a uni-convex cylindrical surface profile. Both the upper and opposing lower inner surfaces of the faceplate perimeter have a transverse (cross sectional) curvature defined by a radius of curvature, R_A , the center of which is the same as the origin of R_B . In an assembled condition, the paddle substantially occupies the faceplate opening. Due to the selected convex shapes of the paddle and faceplate, a portion of the profile of the paddle will be substantially tangent to a corresponding portion of the faceplate surface when the paddle is either in a forwardly tilted position or the rearwardly tilted position. A portion of the paddle front surface is always substantially flush with a portion of the faceplate surface and at no time does any part of the paddle surface protrude past the faceplate front surface.